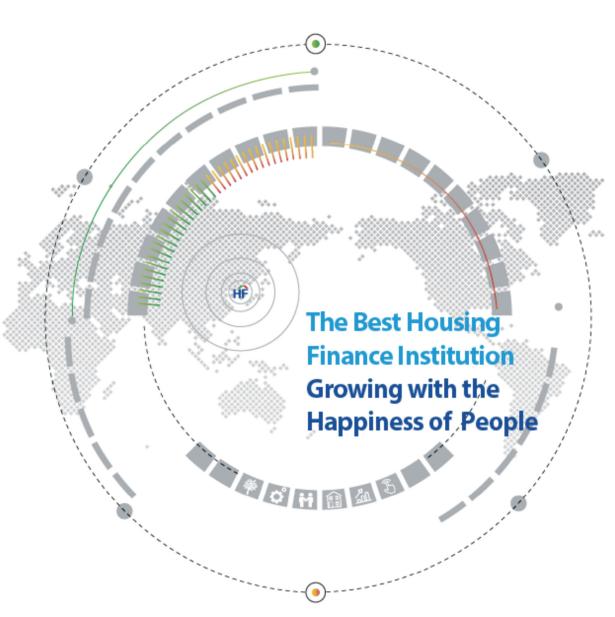


Korea Housing Finance Corporation (KHFC)

Social Covered Bond Framework

September 2018



Contribute to enhancing the welfare of people and national economic development through long-term and stable supply of housing finance

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Korea Housing Finance Corporation (KHFC)

KHFC was established in March 2004 as a government entity pursuant to the Korea Housing Finance Corporation Act No. 7030, 31 December 2003, as amended (the "KHFC Act") with a mandate to support the Korean government's housing welfare policy. KHFC provides long-term fixed rate amortized mortgage loans, housing finance credit guarantees and reverse mortgage guarantees to deliver on its mission *to enhance the welfare of people and national economic development through long-term and stable supply of housing finance*. Since 2004 up to 2017-end, KHFC has assisted more than 2 million households to purchase their residential property by extending over KRW230 trillion of mortgage loans through its diverse mortgage products.

1.2 Korean Government's Housing Welfare Policy

Providing affordable quality housing for its people is a national priority for the Korean government. Home ownership in Korea was approximately $61.6\%^1$ as of December 2017, in comparison to $65.5\%^2$ in Australia, $67.8\%^3$ in Canada, $63.7\%^4$ in the US and $63.4\%^4$ in the UK, while the housing supply ratio has reached 101.2^5 since 2009, indicating a structural imbalance in the Korean housing market.

The government is committed to ensuring the adequate supply of housing, stabilizing housing prices by curtailing speculation, and providing people with practical solutions to finance their residential housing needs. Enhancing housing welfare of low-income

¹ Source: Statistics Korea as of Dec 2017

² Source: Australia Bureau of Statistics

³ Source: Statistics Canada

⁴ Source: Statista

⁵ Source: Statistics Korea

households and the underprivileged population has been a major focus in recent housing policy, and the Korean government has launched the Housing Welfare Road Map in November 2017, a targeted policy aimed at specific ages and income levels, in order to enhance the housing welfare of vulnerable households by supplying public rental units, providing concessional loans and implementing tax benefits for home purchases.

With the rapid growth of the Korean mortgage market, total outstanding mortgage loans have reached KRW727 trillion as of March 2018⁶. Presently, the mortgage market is dominated by adjustable-rate mortgage loans with bullet payments that require a lump-sum payment for the entire loan at maturity. The Korean government recognized that these mortgage loans could increase default risk of households, and especially low to moderate income households could be most impacted in their ability to repay the debt. With a commitment to develop a healthy and sustainable housing finance market, it launched a 3 year roadmap to improve the housing loan structure, in February 2014, which saw an increase in the ratio of fixed rate mortgage loans to floating rate mortgage loans from 16% in 2013 to 40% in 2017 and the ratio of amortizing mortgage loans to bullet mortgage loans from 18.7% in 2013 to 40% in 2017⁷. In 2018, the government aims to increase the ratio of fixed rate mortgage loans to 47.5% and amortizing mortgage loans to 55% by the end of the year.

1.3 KHFC's Efforts in Addressing Challenges in the Korea Housing Finance Market

As the government agency dedicated to the implementation of Korea's housing welfare policy, KHFC has been actively addressing these challenges through developing and purchasing KHFC mortgage loans, securitizing KHFC mortgage loans, and managing the Housing Finance Credit Guarantee Fund (HFCGF). The HFCGF is the source of (a) credit guarantees to financial institutions engaged in providing housing loans to moderate and low income home owners or tenants and construction loans to small-sized home builders

⁶ Source: The Bank of Korea

https://www.fsc.go.kr/downManager?bbsid=BBS1000&no=89249. For information in English, please refer to this news article - http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=3047032

and (b) credit guarantees to financial institutions engaged in lending reverse mortgage loans to senior citizens.

KHFC's mortgage loans are long-term (up to 30 years) fixed rate amortizing products, designed to reduce the repayment burden for low to moderate income households for their home purchase and stabilize and improve the structure of the mortgage loan market. Low income borrowers that satisfy certain criteria may be eligible for discounts from the standard interest rates with such discount subsidized by the government. Borrowers can also enjoy less onerous regulatory requirements, such as a higher loan to value (LTV) ratio and debt to income (DTI) ratio. In 2017, KHFC disbursed KRW30.2 trillion of mortgage loans, assisting 245,000 households to become homeowners. On average, borrowers of KHFC Bogeumjari loans earned approximately KRW42 million annually, and have purchased property valued at approximately KRW253 million. 90% of the properties were smaller than 85m², which is the benchmark size for the Korean Government's housing policy. For Conforming Loans disbursed in 2017, the average house price was approximately KRW253 million, which is still lower than the average property price in Korea.

Through its active securitization activities, KHFC aims to stabilize the Korean mortgage market by purchasing mortgage loans from other Korean financial institutions. Securitization provides KHFC with the primary funding source for the ongoing purchase of KHFC mortgage loans and provides Korean financial institutions originating other mortgage loans with a means to improve their liquidity position. KHFC has issued over KRW230 trillion of securitization products since its inception.

KHFC also provides a number of housing finance credit guarantee programs and reserve mortgage programs, specifically designed for target population of the government's housing welfare policy.

1.4 KHFC's Leadership in Supporting Sustainability

As a government entity with a strong social mandate, KHFC recognizes the importance of sustainable management through its business activities, and has established "securing sustainable future growth engine" as its new strategic goal. KHFC has established the framework for sustainable growth, and has signed on to the UN Global Compact⁸ in 2008, and has signed on to the Fair Player Club⁹, promoting transparency and anti-corruption. KHFC has also received the grand prize for presenting the plan to "expand credit for the housing support for the disadvantaged class through building open partnership" in 2016 at the Government 3.0 competition.

Integrity and ethical management is a key part of its commitment towards sustainability. KHFC achieved the highest ranking among 573 institutions in the integrity evaluation of public institutions by the Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission in 2017, receiving the designation as a Grade 1 agency, marking 8 consecutive years since 2010.

2. Social Bond Framework

Under its mission to contribute to the welfare of the Korean population and the development of the Korean economy by facilitating a stable and long-term supply of housing finance in Korea, KHFC plans to issue multiple Social Covered Bonds under this Social Bond Framework (the "Framework"). Following market best practices, KHFC aspires to fully comply with the <u>ICMA Social Bond Principles 2018</u>, with the following four core components:

- Use of Proceeds
- Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
- Management of Proceeds
- Reporting

⁸ https://www.unglobalcompact.org/

⁹ http://www.fairplayerclub.kr/index e.html

2.1 Use of Proceeds

KHFC Social Covered Bond net proceeds will be allocated to mortgage assets supporting **affordable housing**.

| ICMA 2018 SBP Eligible Project Category | United Nations Sustainable Development Goals | Goals/ Expected Social Benefits |
|---|--|--|
| Affordable Housing | "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" | Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing Develop healthy and sustainable housing finance market and reduce repayment burden |

100% of the net proceeds of the Social Covered Bonds will be used exclusively to purchase KHFC's mortgage loans, originated by partner banks, in order to facilitate the supply of housing finance on a long-term and sustainable basis. All KHFC mortgage loans are carefully designed in terms of eligibility criteria, to ensure that each mortgage product serves the intended social objectives that are in line with the government's housing welfare policy. KHFC mortgage loans are intended to reduce the repayment burden of borrowers by offering long-term fixed rate amortized loan products, when compared with many other types of mortgage loan products available in Korea.

New products can be launched and product features of existing products can change reflecting current government policies and market situation. Detailed product descriptions and eligibility criteria can be found at the KHFC website¹⁰.

The following are currently available KHFC mortgage loans that will be (re)financed with the proceeds of the Social Covered Bonds:

¹⁰ https://www.hf.go.kr/ehf/sub01/sub02_01.do

Bogeumjari Loan

1) Bogeumjari Loan

- Introduced in 2004, as the first and only long-term fixed rate instalment mortgage loans, while the market was dominated by short-term floating rate interest only mortgage products
- Designed for moderate to low income households¹¹
- Social objective: Enabling people to own their residential house with an affordable mortgage loan through stable debt payment

2) Didimdol Loan

- Introduced in January 2014, as an integration of KHFC's Prime Rate Bogeumjari Loan, National Housing Fund's Working Class Housing Loan and the First Home Buyer Loan
- Designed for low income households who do not own a property¹²
- Social objective: Supporting low income families with their home purchase

Conforming Loan

- Introduced in March 2012 by KHFC in partnership with certain commercial banks for the purpose of further promoting the origination of long-term amortizing fixed rate mortgage products in Korea
- Designed for new borrowers or borrowers with short term, floating rate loans subject to lump-sum payments at maturity with commercial banks¹³
- Social objective: Increasing the share of long-term fixed rate amortized mortgage loans (seen as less risky for households in a rising interest rate environment) and helping households manage their mortgage payment burden in line with the Korean Government 3 Year Plan¹⁴

¹¹ Bogeumjari loans are only eligible for borrowers who own no more than 1 property, with maximum household annual income of KRW70 million. The value of the property should not exceed KRW600million, and more restrictive LTV and DTI rules apply for properties in Speculation Zones. In case of house change, borrowers can temporarily own 2 properties. The borrower should sell their existing property within one year of taking out the mortgage loan.

¹² Didimdol loans are only available for families who do not own a property, with a maximum household annual income of KRW60 million. The value of the property should not exceed KRW500 million, and the property should not be larger than 85 m².

¹³ Conforming loans are available for a property whose value does not exceed KRW900 million, and the maximum loan amount is KRW 500million. Detailed product features are decided by each partner bank.

¹⁴ https://www.fsc.go.kr/downManager?bbsid=BBS1000&no=89249

Additional eligibility conditions may apply (e.g. maximum value of the property)
reflecting the government welfare & housing policy which aims at addressing social
issues

2.2 Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

In line with KHFC's mandate as stated above, all KHFC mortgage loans are designed to address a specific social agenda from the Korean government, and have clearly defined eligibility criteria in terms of borrower and the residential property.

1

Launching of Mortgage Loan Products

Eligibility criteria of the mortgage loan products are suggested by KHFC reflecting the government's policy and market situation, and carefully reviewed and agreed by relevant government agencies, including the **Financial Services Commission (FSC)** and **Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transportation (MOLIT).** When launching a new mortgage loan product, the **KHFC Public Mortgage Department** creates detailed guidelines on eligibility, underwriting and required documentation. This is reviewed by the **KHFC Risk Management Committee** chaired by KHFC's Vice President and approved by the Managing Director of the **Securitization Business Group**.

2

Loan Disbursement

Partner banks will receive the product eligibility guidelines, together with underwriting guidelines, so that each mortgage loan application can be strictly reviewed based on the guidelines. Borrowers are required to provide written proof for all eligibility criteria as part of the underwriting process, and KHFC will also pre-screen a majority of the mortgage loan applications to confirm eligibility before the mortgage loan is disbursed to the borrower. All records will be kept in the systems of both the originating partner banks and KHFC. During the life of the mortgage loan, if it is found that a borrower did not meet any eligibility criteria requirements, the originating partner bank will be required to buy back the mortgage loan immediately. Detailed guidelines are

uploaded at the KHFC website, together with its other internal governance policies and guidelines. With an aim to increase transparency and improve efficiency, KHFC also created the *Relief Wallet app* so potential borrowers can directly check their eligibility.

Covered Bond Issuance

When issuing a Social Covered Bond, the **Securitization Department** will only select KHFC mortgage loans to create a cover pool. KHFC also conducts due diligence with a **3rd party auditor** on all the mortgage loans to be purchased by the partner banks in order to test compliance with the required underwriting standards.

The KHFC Securitization Working Group conducts quarterly meetings to review pre-issued MBS and covered bonds and discuss overall strategy and planning on future issuance. The working group consists of members from diverse teams, including the Financial Management Department, Housing Finance Research Center, Public Mortgage Department and Securitization Department. This group will act as a Social Covered Bond Work Group, reviewing the issued Social Covered Bond's cover pools and KHFC's annual reports.

2.3 Management of Proceeds

The net proceeds of the Social Covered Bonds will be fully used to purchase predetermined pools of KHFC mortgage loans from its partner banks on the closing date of each Social Covered Bonds, according to the Loan Purchase Agreements between KHFC and its partner banks.

According to Article 30 of the KHFC Act, KHFC is required to (a) physically separate the purchased mortgage loans from KHFC's other asset; and (b) separately manage the mortgage loans according to a securitization plan. Hence, KHFC will manage the purchased mortgage loans in each Cover Pool separately from its other mortgage loans in a manner

consistent with the requirements of the KHFC Act. The documentation relating to the purchased mortgage loans will be held separately from that of KHFC's other mortgage loans and the cash collections and any liquidation proceeds of such mortgage loans will be held in designated accounts. KHFC will not commingle any of its other funds with those held in the accounts relating to the purchased mortgage loans. Under each Social Covered Bond's Covered Bond Administration Agreement, KHFC is required to clearly designate the assets constituting a Cover Pool and to identify the records of the mortgage loans which are to be included in each Cover Pool and to maintain a listing of such mortgage loan.

Under the terms and conditions of each Social Covered Bonds issuance, KHFC is required to maintain a minimum amount of committed over-collateralization of eligible mortgage loans over the life of the issuance. In order to ensure that the amount of eligible mortgage loans of each Cover Pool is sufficient to protect the holders of the Social Covered Bonds, an Asset Coverage Test is calculated by KHFC on a monthly basis, and a 3rd party auditor will conduct an annual review of the Cover Pool. Each month, KHFC must determine that the adjusted aggregate balance of the Cover Pool must be at least equal to the KRW equivalent amount of the Social Covered Bonds outstanding. KHFC may from time to time after each closing date of the Social Covered Bonds arrange for additional KHFC mortgage loans to be added to the Cover Pool to ensure that the Asset Coverage Test is satisfied. Any unallocated proceeds will be invested in cash or cash equivalents, in accordance with KHFC's usual sound and prudent liquidity management policy.

2.4 Reporting

KHFC is committed to transparent reporting for its Social Covered Bonds. Following the first anniversary of the issuance of the Social Covered Bonds and on an annual basis until the maturity of the Social Covered Bonds, KHFC will communicate to its investors on how the proceeds of Social Covered Bonds are used as well as the expected social impact of the loans financed. The report will be reviewed and approved by the KHFC Securitization Working Group, and will be readily available on KHFC's website.

http://kmbs.hf.go.kr/biz/scBond/scBond.do?MENU_ID=SM2004&SES_MENU_ID=SM0002

2.4.1 Allocation Report

The Allocation Report aims to provide updated information on the mortgage loans that are purchased with the Social Covered Bonds proceeds. The Allocation Report may provide the following information:

- Total eligible mortgage loan balance
- Number of eligible mortgage loans
- Split of mortgage loan by type (Bogeumiari Loan, Didimdol Loan and Conforming Loan)
- Balance (if any) of unallocated proceeds

2.4.2 Impact Report

Where feasible, the report may include qualitative and quantitative social performance indicators. The following indicators are examples that can be included in the report:

- Number of households benefitting from eligible mortgage loans
- Average eligible loan balance per person
- Average house value
- Average household income of borrowers

3. External review

KHFC will engage Sustainalytics to provide a Second-Party Opinion on its Social Covered Bond Framework, and it will be shared at the company's website.

http://kmbs.hf.go.kr/biz/scBond/scBond.do?MENU_ID=SM2004&SES_MENU_ID=SM0002